



# News

University News & Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Cal Poly Arab Music Ensemble to Perform on Campus Nov. 16

SAN LUIS OBISPO — The Cal Poly Arab Music Ensemble and special guest artists will perform an exciting program of music and dance from the Eastern Mediterranean and larger region at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16, in the Performing Arts Center.

The concert will feature some of the most celebrated instrumental and vocal repertoire from the Ottoman era to the present, composed and performed by artists such as Sayyid Darwish and Muhammad Abd Al-Wahhab of Egypt; and Fairouz, Philemon Wehbe, Ziad Rahbani, Marcel Khalife, and Oumeima El Khalil of Lebanon. Concluding the show will be two well-known Armenian folk songs that include a colorful dance.

Performing with the Arab Music Ensemble will be Dwight Reynolds, who teaches Arabic language and literature in the Department of Religious Studies at the UC Santa Barbara. A world-renowned folklorist and scholar of oral epic poetry and its practice in Egypt, in particular, he will present a lecture-demonstration on the epic poetic tradition, Sirat Bani Hilal, with a performance on the rababa, an Arabic spike fiddle.

Critically acclaimed guest artists will include longtime favorites Adel Iskander Guirguis from Egypt on violin and Moses Nasser from Jordan on “qanun.” San Luis Obispo dance directors Sandra Sarrouf and Jenna Mitchell will lead their veteran troupe with artful dances that close both halves of the show.

Directing the 40-member Arab Music Ensemble will be Music Department faculty member Ken Habib, a composer and performer with a doctorate in ethnomusicology.

Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Arab Music Ensemble’s performance with PolyPhonics at Carnegie Hall, where they will give the showcase performance at the World Projects 2014 New York Choral Festival.

Tickets are \$12 and \$14 for the public and \$9 and \$12 for senior citizens and students. Pricing includes all Performing Arts Center fees, and event parking is sponsored by the PAC. Tickets are sold at the Performing Arts Ticket office between noon and 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. To order by phone, call SLO-4TIX (756-4849).

A 10 percent discount is given to patrons who buy season tickets to four Music Department events through the Performing Arts Ticket Office; a 15 percent discount is given on tickets to five or more events.

The concert is sponsored by Cal Poly’s College of Liberal Arts, Music Department, and Instructionally Related Activities program. For more information, call the Music Department at 805-756-2406.

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